AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having cycloartenol synthase activity, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6 have at least ~~92%~~ 95% identity based on the Clustal method of alignment, or

(b) the complement of the nucleotide sequence, wherein the complement and the nucleotide sequence contain the same number of nucleotides and are 100% complementary.

18. (cancelled)

19. (previously presented) The polynucleotide of Claim 17, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

20. (previously presented) The polynucleotide of Claim 17, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

21. (currently amended) ~~[A]~~ An isolated cell comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 17.

22. (previously presented) The cell of Claim 21, wherein the cell is selected from the group consisting of a yeast cell, a bacterial cell and a plant cell.

23. (previously presented) A transgenic plant comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 17.

24. (previously presented) A method for transforming a cell comprising introducing into a cell the polynucleotide of Claim 17.

25. (previously presented) A method for producing a transgenic plant comprising (a) transforming a plant cell with the polynucleotide of Claim 17, and (b) regenerating a plant from the transformed plant cell.

26. (previously presented) A chimeric gene comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 17 operably linked to at least one regulatory sequence.

27. (previously presented) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 17.

28. (previously presented) A seed comprising the chimeric gene of Claim 26.

29. (cancelled)